

# Strategic Prevention Framework Newsletter

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*December 24, 2007*

## Prevention Professional Highlight – Robin Taylor

I moved to Utah from South Dakota in 1980. When my youngest daughter started first grade, I started working at the local newspaper in advertising, photography, dark room, and co-creating the first local recreation and tourism guide in the Uintah Basin. It was a great job with all the needed flexibility to be a mom. After a failed 15 year marriage, the need for a job with benefits became apparent. I was offered a position as Support Services Technician at Northeastern Counseling Center and immediately took the position for the benefits. During my years as support staff, I struggled with raising my daughters in the aftermath of their father's addictions. Addictions that resulted in the death of a local resident employed in the school my daughters attended. During these struggles, I developed a need to "make a difference". Northeastern Counseling Center listened to my need for change and I transferred my duties to DUI Instructor, Case Manager, and teaching the EXCEL class, an educational first-time offender class offered to juveniles. I have recently accepted the position of Prevention Specialist at Northeastern Counseling Center and am excited to tackle the prevention barriers created in our rural area.

In my other time, I am a construction manager, for Uintah Basin Association of Governments, providing hands-on instruction to low income families on how to build their own homes. I also like to garden, tinker with cars, and spend entire days learning what is really important from my seven-year-old granddaughter.

## Strategic Prevention Framework Process

**Step 1: Profile population needs, resources, and readiness to address the problems and gaps in service deliver.**

State Role – SPF SIG grantees must conduct a State-wide needs assessment, through collection and analysis of epidemiological and community readiness data that includes the following:

- ◆ assessment of the magnitude of substance abuse and related mental health disorders in the State,
- ◆ assessment of risk and protective factors in the communities associated with substance abuse and related mental health disorders,
- ◆ assessment of community assets and resources,
- ◆ identification of gaps in services and capacity,
- ◆ assessment of readiness to act,

- ◆ identification of priorities based on the epidemiological analyses, including the identification of target communities to implement the Strategic Prevention Framework, and
- ◆ Specification of baseline data against which progress and outcomes of the Strategic Prevention Framework can be measured.

Community Role – Sub-recipient communities must accurately assess their substance abuse-related problems using epidemiological data provided by the State as well as other local data. The epidemiological data must identify the magnitude of the problem to be addressed, where the problem is greatest, and risk and protective factors associated with the problem. Communities must also assess community assets and resources, gaps in services and capacity and readiness to act.

### **Has your area completed a needs assessment?**

## **Upcoming Events**

### ***January***

Parents Empowered Month

### ***February***

6 – SPF meeting; Delta, UT

7 – Prevention Coordinator Meeting; Delta, UT

11-14 – CADCA Conference; Washington, D.C.

### ***May***

TBD – SPF Retreat

## **Resources**

WestCAPT - <http://captus.samhsa.gov/western/western.cfm>  
 Prevention Platform - <http://www.preventionplatform.samhsa.gov>  
 SAMHSA - <http://www.samhsa.gov>  
 DSAMH - <http://dsamh.utah.gov>

## **Contact Information**

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